

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

D. Remarks

Applicants respectfully requests reconsideration of the refusal to enter the above amendments.

5 The above amendments are the same amendments previously submitted in a response to final office action, dated 5/27/2003. In the subsequent Advisory Action, dated 5/30/03, the above amendments were not entered by the Examiner under the reasoning that the amendments raise new issues.

Applicant respectfully requests the amendments be entered for purposes of appeal based
10 on following reasons:

- 1) The amendments cannot raise new issues as they represent the incorporation of dependent claim limitations.
- 2) The amendments present the claims in better form for purposes of Appeal.

15 1. Amendments Raise No New Issues

All of Applicant's amendments represent the incorporation of dependent claim limitations. Thus, such amendments cannot raise new issues. In particular,

20 Applicant's amendment to Claim 1 incorporates all the limitations of dependent claim 2.

Applicant's amendment to Claim 12 incorporates all the limitations of dependent claim 14.

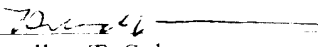
Applicant's amendment to Claim 18 incorporates a portion of the
25 limitations of dependent claim 19.

2. Amendments Place Claims in Better Form.

As is evident from the above, by entering the amendments, claims, 2 and 14 are eliminated for purposes of appeal. Further, limitations of claim 19 are eliminated for purposes of
30 appeal. This presents the claims in better form for review on appeal, and reduces the issues on appeal.

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Respectfully Submitted,


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